

**Colorado Methamphetamine Task Force Meeting
March 28, 2008
10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Colorado Municipal League
1144 Sherman St., Denver**

Attendees:

Lori Moriarty, Janet Wood, José Esquibel, Leslie Herod, Jeanne Smith, James Hiatt, Stan Hilkey, Janet Rowland, Janelle Krueger, Nicolas Taylor, Kathryn Wells, Wayne Maxwell, Debra Campeau, Jeaneene Miller, Mitch Morrissey, Tom Quinn, Carmelita Muniz

Guests:

Bert Singleton, Barbara Ezyk, Christine Agosta, Halcy Diskell, Julia Roguski, Pat Sullivan, Jade Thomas, Drew DeMarie, Colleen Brisnehan, Dennis Dahlke

Introductions:

Attorney General John Suthers is not here today but he sends his regards.

Review and approval of minutes:

Minutes from January 25, 2007 were moved and approved with a change to page 10. The change will read from the last Friday to the fourth Friday of the month.

Announcements from Task Force Members:

- ⇒ Janet Wood: Lloyd Malone has been hired as the new director of Child Welfare. We will need to send a letter from the Attorney General inviting him to join the task force.
- ⇒ Mitch Morrissey has joined us as the representative for the President of the Senate Designee. We will need to send a letter from the Attorney General inviting him to join the task force.
- ⇒ The replacement for Petra's place on this task force is still being worked on.
- ⇒ Nick Taylor: Thank you for the letter of support for the Delta County SAMHAS grant. We hope to get this grant.
- ⇒ Colleen Brisnehan: EPA is in the process of reviewing the best practice document with follow up review of the document. This is moving forward slowly. This document outlines the Best Practices for Meth Clean-up targeted for states that don't have a program in place. This will be a guidance document. Colorado is one of the states that already have a guidance document in place. These guidelines are what we need to follow at the state level not the federal document. Our border states have the standards, UT, WY, AZ, KS and New Mexico is working on their standards. The eastern states are the states that are currently working on putting standards in place.

Funds for Meth Treatment:

Access to Recovery:

Bert Singleton,

ATR Project Director, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Div.

- ⇒ Colorado Access to Recovery (ATR) is a federally funded initiative expanding access to substance abuse treatment and recovery support services to over 6000 people over

a three-year period. The Colorado Office of the Governor in conjunction with Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) have been awarded a three-year grant by the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment to expand existing treatment capacity, increase client choice of treatment provider, and enhance the participation of community and faith based organizations in providing support for individuals with substance abuse problems.

- ⇒ This is a difficult grant because it is voucher based, fee for service (no show, no pay) this grant has to offer choices, there must be at least 2 choices offered. The treatment side of this grant is easy to do, providing the services are the difficult part.
- ⇒ This grant can't supplant funding it is additional funding.
- ⇒ The process is:
 - Anyone that might need services calls the call center.
 - A brief screen is done on the phone, they check for eligibility.
 - An appt is given to an employee assistance provider and the test is taken to see the type of treatment or help they need.
 - An electronic voucher is created and a copy of the voucher is given to the person with the address of the place they need to go to.
 - 85% of the money has to be spent on the voucher.
 - Only 15% is spent of the running of the program. Colorado Springs and metro Denver are the two areas that we are focusing on. By the end of April, we are hoping to be able to provide communities in the I-25 corridor with treatment support but not with the recovery part.

Discussion:

- We are very interested in any thing the Meth Task force can do to help get this project up and running.
- Drug court referrals – this would be a good fit.
 - ✧ A court cannot order a specific treatment. If the court is willing to give them two choices, then we can help them get the treatment.
- Bert is willing to go to different sites and talk about this program.
- Working with Urban Peak to bring assessment people to them and we are looking at setting up a set time to do this.
- Question- if there is a local meth task force team in place and have things in place who would they contact.
 - ✧ Contact Bert. Both, Nick and Janet are very interested in this process.
- Jail population – we are very interested in that, but again they have to have a choice.
 - ✧ When someone is being released from jail we can help him or her.
- Come to the western slope. If there is only an ADAD provider in the area we would still give them a choice but it may mean that the choices may be miles apart. We want to build infrastructure.
- In regard to recovery support, can funds be used for transportation?
 - ✧ Yes.
- How are providers paid?
 - ✧ For those who are registered as a treatment provider they can receive reimbursement for services rendered through the voucher.

- ✧ This grant is funded for three years. This is a White House initiative. The feds are encouraging the Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment (SBIRT) grant and the ATR grant to work together.
- How many vouchers are issued?
 - ✧ As many as is needed. The system is set up to do this voucher system. There is also a gap fund created to cover overages. This is a very unique funding opportunity.
- Is there any co-pay?
 - ✧ No.
- If you are getting your treatment from another source can you still get this money?
 - ✧ Yes, this is a supplemental.
- The children of those using, can this money be used to help break the cycle?
 - ✧ Yes, the entire family is qualified. There is no minimal age if there is a child involved the parents can receive the vouchers.

Closing comment from Bert: We are hoping to demonstrate that this grant is needed. We are collecting data for the next three years to use to support the need of this grant. We are hoping this will help us change the legislature in three years to have sustainability.

Meth Task Force Data Committee

The three priorities are:

1. We are looking at the variable with the first report. We are going to rerun the data from last time to look for trends. If you have data in your community, please share this with José. Also, if you have information that you want to get in this report, forward that to José.
2. Demo sites and learning sites. In the communities we are going to figure out a way to do assessment on common data within their communities. We want to help them to understand their community data.
3. What do you want to see this data say? The cost on other systems (Mesa county white paper). Prevention is terms of what works. Information/dissemination work, outcomes. Data collection tools, a warehouse evaluating the effective ness of data.

Discussions

- The comparison of Meth Lab Seizure Incidents with Workplace Positives shows the numbers going down. This is good news
- Office of National Drug Control has published a report “Current State of Drug Policy: Successes and Challenges”.
- A lot of good information in this report especially in the enforcement area.
- The general public needs to be able access to this data.
- The meth data committee has been reconvened. This data from the report will be used to start a marketing campaign.

- o What is the return on the investment with the different approaches of treatment/recovery? The governor's office has a number of people that may be able to help us. Leslie will be able to help in this area.
- o What about the legal issues and should we be looking at position papers that we need to write? The vice chairs agreed that it is a good opportunity to put a sub-committees together to create these position papers. There was consensus to create a sub-committee. The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) has a number of papers we could use.
- o The next Data Committee meeting is April 29th at OMNI. If you have names of people that should be attending this meeting please send the names to José. By September we hope to have a report ready for this task force.

Demonstration and Learning Sites

Drew DeMarie and Jade Thomas

- o We have visited 12 sites in the last 19 days. The grant funding from the Daniel's Fund will be running out at the end of December. Our goal has been to recruit and define the terms for demo sites.
- o We discovered that they were sites that needed to be learning sites and found a group of sites that were further ahead in their development and these are the demonstration sites.
- o We are able to provide services for both types of sites.
- o We are looking at models that the sites have brought together all the silos in their communities to address the issues in their communities.
- o Programs vs Collaborations
- o We started to see the difference in the program and collaboration. We need to have more comprehensive collaborations in the areas.
- o Summaries and Recommendations:
- o This was a great opportunity to see the state and to see how you each work with your programs.

Findings:

The recommendations is to work with—

- 5 demonstration sites, 5 learning sites, and 2 sites for continued support
- o Demo sites: C-SIMI, Savio Direct Link, Delta County, Denver TASC, 4th Judicial Dist.
- o Learning sites: Denver DEC, South Metro Drug Task Force, Weld County, Larimer County, Mesa County
- o Continued support sites: Boulder County DEC and Denver EFFECT

Discussions:

- o We are asking that the Community Resource Assessments (CRAs) continue to be filled out and sent to Drew or Jade. It has been very educational and informative process, which has helped us to collect data.
- o The difference between a learning site and demonstration site is the development of the site. The learning site is a site that is just beginning. The demonstration

- sites have already done a lot of the work and are they ready to be evaluated. The learning sites will take more time and we will support them in their process.
- o What are the activities for demonstration sites? The site will partner with the data committee to collect the data and what is the evidence based information that is there. Making use of processes and tools that already exist and align well with the Colorado Blueprint.
 - o Demonstration sites have a lot of evaluation data but don't have the data analyzed and interpreted. There is the thought of recruiting graduate students to assist with this task.
 - o Learning sites are at a stage of strengthening relationships with partners. The technical assistance that will be provided to these groups will be in regard to improving those partnerships and working to setting up policies and procedure for coalition work. The sites will also start to work the ATR grant. This is one aspect they will have in common for data tracking purposes.
 - o What are the needs of these areas? How do we set up collaborations in the areas? What is already happening in the areas? How do we help assist hooking them up with each other? At the state level we hope to be able to align the efforts.
 - o What are the implications of the difference in the labels? Demonstration vs. learning? It is based on the criteria? It is not based just on the longevity? It is a difference in how to support each group. There is no difference in the sites categories.
 - o We should rename the categories. Can we just call them evaluation sites for demonstration?

It was moved and approved to go with the recommendations

- o A motion was made and seconded to accept the list of sites as is. Motion approved.

Website and Survey Responses

Drew DeMarie and Jade Thomas

- o Reviewed website
- o Website survey was sent out and we received only 9 responses
- o Site Capacity – 3 levels: state, county, learning and demonstration sites
- o The new Website will be – www.coloradodec.org. To view the website as is, please email Drew or Jade for the link to the demo site.
- o We would still like to get more feedback on the survey, please continue to fill out the survey and return to Drew or Jade.
- o We need to look at the funding that is being used to the website development. How are we enhancing each program and what we are doing within the state. How do we get the information?
- o There is consideration being given to redesign the Community Resource Assessment? This form is not friendly. It is not visual appealing or accessible and understandable. The CRA could serve as a summary for each program and be highlighted on the Colorado DEC website.
- o Also, we are asking this group's approval to hire a Web Content Administrator to assist with the design, navigability, and content management of the site, using funds from the grant El Pomar awarded to the Task Force for technology advancements.

It was moved and approved to hire a web content administrator

- o A motion was made and seconded to accept this notice. Motion approved.

Next meeting dates:

Location is the Colorado Municipal League, 1144 Sherman St.

May 23, 2008

July 25, 2008

September 26, 2008

November 21, 2008

Closing comments:

Meeting was filled with good news!

Send referrals to ATR

Positive comments about this meeting - Over the past two years this meeting is coming together, is very informational and is being made more clear.